



Proclamation

WHEREAS the USS Willis (DE 395) was one of a number of destroyer escorts that were built and commissioned during World War II; and

WHEREAS of the 563 destroyer escorts, 375 were put to sea to perform convoy escort duty and to form “hunter-killer” task groups during the bleak days of World War II, when German submarines were decimating allied shipping in the North Atlantic; and

WHEREAS task forces, comprised of such task groups and working in concert with light aircraft carriers, mounted the United States Navy’s successful anti-submarine warfare offensive; and

WHEREAS the USS Willis was one of those destroyer escorts that helped stem and reverse the tide of battle in the North Atlantic; and

WHEREAS the USS Willis was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for her heroic efforts in the Battle of the Atlantic; and

WHEREAS the USS Willis continued her service in the Southwest Pacific, where she performed escort duty and participated in the securing of several Japanese occupied islands in Micronesia;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim the day of October 8, 2006, as

USS WILLIS DAY

in the State of Louisiana.



Attest By
The Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this
the 22nd *day of* August
A.D., 2006

[Signature]
Governor of Louisiana